

**REMARKS**

Applicants have amended the specification to add a priority claim to International Patent Application No. PCT/GB03/00099, filed January 13, 2003, under the Patent Cooperation Treaty, which claims priority to and the benefit of British Patent Application No. 0200867.0, filed January 15, 2002.

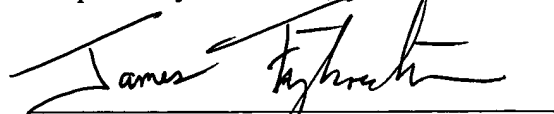
Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment before beginning examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicants note that pending claims 1 to 28 were previously presented pursuant to PCT Article 34. Additionally, these claims were the subject of the International Preliminary Examination Report (IPER). A copy of the IPER is enclosed. Applicants submit that since claims 1 to 28 were pending in the International Application, these claims are now pending in the corresponding National Stage Application. Accordingly, claims 3 to 8, 12, 14, 17 to 20, and 22 to 27 are herein amended to correct or remove multiple dependency. Support for these amendments may be found, for example, in the previously filed claims and throughout the specification.

Applicants believe that the foregoing amendments introduce no new matter. Early favorable action is respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



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